

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. -24 (Canceled)

25. (Currently amended) A method of identifying a GH/IGF-1 axis antagonist, the method comprising:

a) providing a small molecule that is obtained by chemically modifying an agonist of GHRH, GHRH-R, GHS, GHS-R, GH, GH-R, IGF-1, IGF-1R, PI(3) kinase, PDK-1, Akt-1, Akt-2, or Akt-3 or that is selected for structural similarity to an agonist of GHRH, GHRH-R, GHS, GHS-R, GH, GH-R, IGF-1, IGF-1R, PI(3) kinase, PDK-1, Akt-1, Akt-2, or Akt-3; [[and]]

b) evaluating activity of GHRH, GHRH-R, GHS, GHS-R, GH, GH-R, IGF-1, IGF-1R, PI(3) kinase, PDK-1, Akt-1, Akt-2, or Akt-3 *in vitro*, in a cell, or in an organism in the presence of the small molecule, and

c) identifying the small molecule wherein ability of the small molecule to antagonize the activity of GHRH, GHRH-R, GHS, GHS-R, GH, GH-R, IGF-1, IGF-1R, PI(3) kinase, PDK-1, Akt-1, Akt-2, or Akt-3 identifies the small molecule as a GHRH, GHRH-R, GHS, GHS-R, GH, GH-R, IGF-1, IGF-1R, PI(3) kinase, PDK-1, Akt-1, Akt-2, or Akt-3 antagonist wherein the small molecule antagonizes the activity of GHRH, GHRH-R, GHS, GHS-R, GH, GH-R, IGF-1, IGF-1R, PI(3) kinase, PDK-1, Akt-1, Akt-2, or Akt-3.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein the evaluating comprises a cell-free assay or a cell-based assay.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 25 wherein the evaluating comprises administering the small molecule to an adult organism.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27 wherein the organism has normal IGF-1 levels prior to the administering.

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 27 wherein a cohort of adult organisms are treated and evaluated, each organism of the cohort characterized by normal IGF-1 levels prior to the treating.

30. (Currently amended) The method of claim 27 wherein the evaluating comprises evaluating GH or IGF-1 levels, and decreased levels of GH or growth hormone and/or IGF-1 identifies the small molecule as an antagonist.

31. - 35. (Cancelled)

36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the small molecule is combined with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.